THE SECRETARY OF STATE WASHINGTON

April 19, 1974

Dear Bill:

I am pleased to inform you that I have designated Ambassador Sheldon B. Vance as my Senior Adviser and Coordinator for International Narcotics Matters, with rank administratively equivalent to Assistant Secretary. At the direction of the President, he will also serve as Executive Director of the Cabinet Committee on International Narcotics Control. Ambassador Vance, who succeeds Ambassador William J. Handley, assumed his new duties on April 1.

Ambassador Vance comes to this assignment from the Republic of Zaire where he served as Chief of Mission from May 1969 to March 1974. In February of this year, he led the United States Delegation to the Third Special Session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

As Executive Director of the Cabinet Committee, Ambassador Vance is responsible for coordinating the President's international drug control program. More specifically, his duties include:

- Overseeing the operation of the President's Cabinet Committee interagency organization;
- 2. Coordinating the international narcotics control activities and programs of all involved U.S. agencies;
- Acting as the principal point of contact and adviser on international narcotics control matters for OMB, the NSC, and the Domestic Council;
- Ensuring implementation of United States policy in international narcotics control matters;

The Honorable William E. Colby, Director of Central Intelligence.

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- 5. Providing drug control direction to American ambassadors and narcotics control coordinators abroad;
- 6. Communicating, as appropriate, with foreign governments on drug control matters;
- 7. Representing the United States on the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs and at other international drug meetings and conferences;
- 8. Authorizing and supervising the expenditure of funds appropriated in the Foreign Assistance Act for international narcotics control programs.

I know Ambassador Vance will rely heavily on continued close cooperation from your Agency in combatting international narcotics trafficking.

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Warm regards,

Henry A. Kissinger

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